Court of Inquiry and it is not possible to give any definite view at this stage.

(b) 'S' Mode Transponders are fitted in the aircraft. The corresponding land based equipment called Secondary Surveillance Radars (SSRs) have already been commissioned at Hyderabad and Thiruvananthapuram Airports. Installation of SSRs at Ahmedabad, Calcutta, Madras and Guwahati will be completed in 1997. Modernisation of Air Traffic Control system at Delhi and Bombay airports at an estimated cost of Rs. 423.89 crores has been taken up and the facilities will be commissioned by June, 1997.

(c) Other measures which have been emphasised to avoid air accidents are strict adherence by Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs), ATC procedures and instructions laid down, usage of standard phraseology between crew and ATCs and proper maintenance of navigational, communication and landing facilities.

Agreement with Portugal on Opening of New Airlines

2425. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently signed an agreement with Portugal on opening of new airlines and more understanding in Civil Aviation Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether similar agreement has been signed with other European country during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) The Air Services Agreement between India and Portugal was signed on 6th February, 1997.

(b) The Agreement enables the designated airline of India to operate air services to Lisbon and that of Portugal to Bombay through specified intermediate points and to points beyond. The frequency of services and capacity will be jointly determined by the aeronautical authorities of the Contracting States from time to time.

(c) Air Services agreement have been finalised/signed with Finland, Ukraine, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Slovakia and Czech Republic during the last two years.

Capacity utilisation of Indian Airlines

2426. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while the passenger traffic carried by Indian Airlines has increased during the period 1990-91 to 1996-97 but the capacity utilisation has gone down; and

(b) if so, the capacity utilisation on Indian Airlines during each year 1990-91 to 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

सूरत में विमानपत्तन का निर्माण किये जाने की मांग

2427. **श्री रामजी लाल:** क्या नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वाणिज्य-मंडल के एक प्रतिनिधि मंडल ने सूरत (गुजरात) में एक विमानपत्तन का निर्माण किये जाने की मांग के संबंध में उनसे मुलाकात की थी;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या उन्हें कोई आश्वासन दिया गया था;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उपर्युक्त विमानपत्तन का निर्माण-कार्य कब तक आरम्भ हो जायेगा; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?